

# Weather Forecast

Partly cloudy with high about 45 this afternoon. Fair tonight with low about 30. Tomorrow, mostly sunny; high in middle 40s. (Full report on Page A-2.)

Midnight, 37 6 a.m., 38 11 a.m., 39  
2 a.m., 37 8 a.m., 38 Noon, 40  
4 a.m., 36 10 a.m., 37 1 p.m., 40

Late New York Markets, Page A-31.

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# Guide for Readers

Page	Page
After Dark.....A-30	Lost and Found.....A-3
Amusements.....B-16-17	Obituary.....A-28
Comics.....C-10-11	Radio.....C-11
Editorial.....A-18	Society, Clubs.....B-3
Editorial Articles.....A-19	Sports.....C-1-3
Finance.....A-31	Woman's Page.....C-4

An Associated Press Newspaper

## U. S. Charges Molotov Protest On Reich Mission's Expulsion Misrepresented, Distorted Fact

Demand That Order by Clay Be Canceled Is Rejected in Note

By Garnett D. Horner

The United States today accused Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov of "misrepresentation and distortion of fact" in rejecting his protest against an order for expulsion of the Soviet Repatriation Commission from the American zone of Germany.

The State Department made public a note delivered to Mr. Molotov at Moscow today which completely upheld the order by Gen. Lucius D. Clay, American commander in Germany.

The Soviet mission in Frankfurt, which refused to leave before the March 1 deadline set by Gen. Clay, has been blockaded by American military police who have cut off its water supply and other utilities.

### Cancellation Demanded.

In a protest delivered to the American Embassy in Moscow last Friday, the Soviet government asked cancellation of Gen. Clay's expulsion order, charging that it violated a 1945 repatriation agreement.

The American reply declared: "This Government considers the minister's note replete with misrepresentation and distortion of fact."

It concluded by reaffirming the position taken by Gen. Clay and requesting that Soviet Repatriation Commission personnel be "withdrawn forthwith."

The United States note backed up Gen. Clay's contention that the Soviet mission should leave the American zone because most of its work in supervising repatriation to Russia of Soviet citizens who wish to go back has been completed. The note pointed out that activities of the mission resulted in repatriation of Russians from the American zone at a rate of less than nine persons a month during the three months ending January 31.

"It is obvious that such limited repatriation activities can be arranged adequately by the existing Soviet military mission," the note declared. It promised that this mission would receive full American co-operation in achieving voluntary repatriation of Soviet citizens.

**Charge of Hindrances Denied.** "There is no basis for the Soviet government's statement," the American note asserted, "that large numbers of Soviet citizens desirous of returning to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics remain in the American area of occupation as a result of hindrances caused to the operation of the Soviet Repatriation Mission by American authorities or for any reason other than their own volition."

The note said a United Nations General Assembly resolution of February 12, 1946, pointed out that displaced persons who express "valid objection to returning to their countries of origin" should not be compelled to return. The United States emphasized that persons in this category cannot be considered potential repatriates.

The Russians had contended that there are more than 116,000 Soviet citizens subject to repatriation in the American zone of Germany.

**Hawaiian Statehood Voted By House Subcommittee.**

By the Associated Press

A House Public Lands subcommittee today approved Statehood for Hawaii.

The subcommittee acted favorably on a bill by Delegate Joseph R. Farrington, Republican, of Hawaii, after a brief hearing and review of previous congressional investigations.

Chairman Redden told reporters the subcommittee's action in closed session was unanimous. The subcommittee voted to urge the full Public Lands Committee to approve the bill for House action.

A bill to admit Alaska to the Union as a State will be considered tomorrow by the same subcommittee.

**D. C. Gets Snow Flurries; Mercury to Reach 45**

Snow flurries this morning were not expected to continue throughout the day. Weather Bureau officials said, and fair weather was to follow tonight. By 9:30 a.m. some flakes had fallen on downtown Washington and in the Chevy Chase area.

The sun shone from time to time today, also, with the temperature rising to about 45 degrees in the midafternoon. A low of 30 degrees is predicted for tonight.

Tomorrow will be mostly sunny, with a high temperature in the mid 40s. Yesterday's high was 42 at 4:50 p.m. The low was 27 at 6:34 a.m. Today's low was 36 at 4:06 a.m.

## German Troop Skeletons Found In Hospital Shut by '18 Shell

Bones on Cots, Rifles and Helmets Stacked Near Door of Dugout Discovered in France

By the Associated Press

ARRAS, France, Mar. 3.—Searchers today dug into a subterranean German Army field hospital, buried since the patients and doctors were suffocated when a shell sealed off their communications trench in 1918.

Skeletons of the patients were found on their cots lined up in rows along the walls. German rifles and helmets were stacked by the door.

The underground field hospital was found yesterday by a rabbit hunter who broke through the dugout's crumbling roof. Its location was an old rock quarry that hasn't been used for more than 40 years.

The hunter, M. Fleury Leblond, said he was pushing his way

through foliage that had grown over the quarry when his foot broke through the ground. Peering inside he saw skeletons and returned to Arras to report his discovery.

Digging into the hospital, he and other citizens of Arras found the grim spectacle.

A skeleton or two were thought those of doctors. One patient was apparently being operated on when the shell struck.

A communication trench, between the hospital and another dugout nearby, had been hit and buried by an Allied artillery shell. The patients and doctors died of suffocation.

Arras, near Lille, was in the British sector when the great offensive began in 1918.

## Broad Czech Spy Net Launched in Europe, Munich Trial Told

Officer Who Escaped From Czechoslovakia Last Fall Testifies on Operations

By the Associated Press

MUNICH, Germany, Mar. 3.—A former Czechoslovak Army intelligence officer testified today that a broad spy network has been started in Europe by the Communists, who rule the country.

The witness, Capt. Otakar Fejfar, appeared under armed protective guard at the spy trial of five Germans and three Czechs before a United States military commission. He fled Czechoslovakia last November.

Capt. Fejfar said as a captain in the Czech intelligence, his main job was to obtain American military data in the United States occupation zone of Germany. He also gathered political and industrial notes.

The surprise witness said his orders came from "just below the general staff level" and that he recruited agents from information his superiors supplied. He said the Czech Interior Ministry was the top directing agency. He identified one of the Germans as his agent.

A spy courier service, using faked refugee commission addresses for protection, was described in the trial.

A counter intelligence agent testified that Maria Hablick, a defendant, told him she had employed such a subterfuge.

He said she admitted addressing an envelope to a German refugee commission address, "So I could tell police if I was stopped that I was only delivering the papers to the addressee."

The eight defendants, three of them women, are charged with transmitting American military information to Czechoslovakia.

**Falcon Island, Volcanic Pacific Spot, Disappears**

By the Associated Press

WELLINGTON, New Zealand, Mar. 3.—Falcon Island—small unidentified volcanic member of the Tonga group—has disappeared.

This advice was contained in a message to the navy office at Wellington today from the naval frigate Hawea.

Falcon Island was heaved up by a volcanic eruption in October, 1885.

**70 Drown in Storm**

HONG KONG, Mar. 3 (AP)—

Seventy persons were drowned today by a sudden storm which swamped 50 fishing junks in Mirs Bay. Seven bodies were recovered. Some women and children were drowned.

**Americans String Barbed Wire Around Blockaded Red Mission**

By the Associated Press

FRANKFURT, Germany, Mar. 3.—United States Army engineers strung barbed-wire entanglements around the blockaded Russian repatriation mission today, and set up floodlights.

The explanation was obscure. A military policeman said the new move was to prevent the possibility of food being smuggled in to the eight blockaded Russians, and to prevent them from leaving "on their own" without reporting to American authorities first.

The Americans want the Russians to leave—in fact, ordered them to go—and have offered transportation facilities to the border if the Russians leave voluntarily. But when asked for further explanation of the barbed wire and floodlights, the military policeman replied cryptically:

"There are a lot of trees on this estate and you never can tell what they might try."

The eight Russians who ignored the United States Army's orders to leave by March 1, watched the wire stringing operations curiously from windows of the three-story building. They showed no intention of leaving, although they are

## Truman to Name Johnson Today To Forrestal Job

President Set to Accept Resignation of Chief Of Defense Department

By Joseph A. Fox

President Truman is expected to announce today acceptance of the long-standing resignation of Secretary of Defense Forrestal and the appointment of Louis A. Johnson, former Assistant Secretary of War and one of the leaders in the Truman re-election campaign, as his successor.

Word from the White House was that the announcement would be made at the President's news conference at 4 o'clock when an exchange of letters between the President and his retiring defense chief would be made public.

The early retirement of Secretary of the Army Royal also was reported in prospect.

Mr. Forrestal, the Nation's first Secretary of Defense, is the last cabinet holdover from the Roosevelt administration. He was Secretary of the Navy when appointed to his present post at the time the new national defense setup was created.

**Action Expected for Some Time.** Mr. Forrestal's retirement from the cabinet has been rumored ever since the campaign. He took no active part in the election, but it was generally understood that the President wanted his Secretary of State and Secretary of Defense to remain on the political sidelines, to keep both foreign policy and defense on a nonpartisan basis.

The Forrestal retirement rumors were strengthened a few days after the election, when photographers asked him to pose for a picture "starting another year," and were met with the response, "Not for me."

On January 11, however, Mr. Forrestal said flatly that he expected to stay in the cabinet. Traditionally, all cabinet members offer their resignations to a new President, so he can start with a new slate if desired. Mr. Forrestal said after a White House conference on changes in the security act that he did not expect his resignation to be accepted and that he wanted to retain his place.

**Asked All Members to Stay.** Mr. Truman said later that he had asked all Cabinet members to stay on.

The only other change has been the retirement of the ailing Secretary of State George C. Marshall and the appointment of Dean G. Acheson, to succeed him.

Mr. Forrestal, 57, was an investment banker in private life, heading the firm of Dillon-Read in New York.

Mr. Johnson, 58, is a West Virginian who formerly headed the American Legion.

**Johnson Quit in 1940.** He was assistant Secretary of War from 1937 to 1940, in charge of industrial mobilization. He resigned when Henry L. Stimson, a Republican, was named Secretary of War.

During the Truman campaign Mr. Johnson was chairman of the finance committee of the Democratic National Committee, and his work was picked out for special praise by President Truman at a luncheon given by the committee in the pre-inaugural festivities.

Mr. Johnson's name has been linked frequently with a prospective change in the Defense Secretaryship.

**C-47 Wreck Found In Mexico, All Dead**

By the Associated Press

DEL RIO, Tex., Mar. 3.—Sheriff A. E. Steinmetz said today that a missing C-47 crashed in the Colorado Mountains south of here in Mexico and that all aboard were killed.

The plane had been missing for several days on a flight from Hamilton Field, Calif., to Kelly Field in San Antonio, Tex., and had been the object of an extensive search.

Kelly Air Force Base at San Antonio announced those on the transport were:

Maj. Lucian N. Youngblood, 30, Houston, Tex.; one of Lt. Gen. James A. Doolittle's pilots in the first bombing raid on Japan; Sgt. H. B. Jones, 35, Wellington, Colo.; Capt. George N. Pennington, 26, Chicago; Corp. Donald V. Nutt, Baker, Oreg.; Capt. William R. Barnes, Jr., 29, Marshall, Tex.; 1st Lt. William W. McClure, 24, Venetia, Pa.; 2d Lt. Glen J. Wren, 23, Warren, Minn.; T/Sgt. Marcus Slayton, 26, Tyron, Ga.; and D. H. Stewart, a Navy man, address not listed.

**South China Reported Invaded by Armed Band**

By the Associated Press

HONG KONG, Mar. 3.—The Canton correspondent of the Hong Kong Star said today unidentified armed groups seized briefly control of five South China townships.

Government troops, said the correspondent, arrived too late to trap the armed band at Hoksan, the first township seized.



## Cherry Blossom Festival Posts Asked for Loyal Democrats

Trade Board, Declaring Nonpartisan Approach Is Essential, Rebuffs Demands

Politics has reared its Democratic head among the yet unopened cherry blossoms.

The Democratic Central Committee, it was learned today, wants to get some good loyal Democrats on the 1949 Cherry Blossom Festival Committee.

It seems that some people who might even be Republicans have got themselves entrenched on the festival committee.

The Washington Board of Trade, whose Greater National Capital Committee sponsors the festival, has rejected the plea of the Democrats, however.

The board's position: It always has been nonpartisan and expects to stay that way. Besides, it doesn't even know who's a Democrat and who's a Republican.

Spokesman for the injured Democrats is A. L. Wheeler, chairman of the party's central committee here. Mr. Wheeler is also holder of a newly created job with the Senate District Committee helping a subcommittee draft a Washington home rule bill.

Also, it was learned today, if the Democrats get the Festival Committee places, they may roll down to that event in autos bearing low license numbers.

It seems that some high-ranking Democrats are planning to go to the festival.

**Stronger Labor Setup To Be Proposed by Hoover Commission**

Plan Includes Transfer Of Selective Service To Department Control

By James Y. Newton

The Hoover Commission will recommend considerable building up of the Labor Department, including transfer of the Office of Selective Service to the department, it was learned today.

Plans call for the Department to handle all manpower functions of the Government. If commission recommendations are followed, the Department also would be returned to the original function prescribed in its charter—the promotion and protection of the interests of the working men and women.

In the event of another war, the Labor Department presumably would handle all manpower allotments to the armed forces and to war industries. In the last war, independent agencies were created for those tasks.

**FSA Unit Transfers.** The commission would strengthen the Secretary of Labor Tobin's department, stripped to little more than bureau status in recent years, by the transfer to it of the following agencies:

1. The United States Employment Service and the Division of Unemployment Compensation, both of which now are in the Federal Security Agency.

2. Enforcement authority of the Walsh-Healy and Bacon-Davis Acts, the laws which prescribe prevailing wages and working conditions for Federal projects and procurement. Enforcement of the laws now is in the hands of the individual procurement agencies.

3. Several small agencies of the Maritime Commission and the Veterans' Administration.

The Hoover group also will recommend that the Secretary of Labor be given direct authority over administration and enforcement of the Fair Labor Standards (Wage-Hour) Law.

**Report Due Soon.** The report of the commission on the reorganization of the labor agencies will be released in a few days.

A desire to keep Selective Service free of military control, it is understood, led to the decision to suggest its transfer to Labor.

Former President Hoover, chairman of the commission, was said to favor return to Labor of the Children's Bureau, which was transferred to the Federal Security Agency a few years ago. However, the commission rejected the idea on the ground the bureau performs a purely social security job.

The United States Employment Service was an integral part of the War Manpower Commission during the war.

The division administering unemployment compensation never has been in the department.

## Truman Seeks Speed On Classification Bill, Federal Pay Raise

Sees Senate Group, Urges Early Action on Personnel Program

President Truman today told members of the Senate Civil Service Committee that legislation to revise the Classification Act—and raise the salaries of thousands of Government employees—would go to Congress shortly.

He also expressed hope that action in Congress could be expedited.

Reviewing the field of Government personnel with the group, headed by Chairman Johnston, the President also re-emphasized his interest in pending legislation which carries pay raises for high-level officials, classified employees of the District government and the foreign service.

Mr. Truman recalled, as he has done previously, the difficulty he has in retaining competent aides because of inadequate pay.

**Would Raise 223 Officials.** The pay legislation, which would establish top scale salaries within the range of \$17,500 to \$25,000 annually, is now before a subcommittee of the Senate Civil Service Committee. The subcommittee is headed by Senator O'Connor, Democrat, of Maryland who said it was hoped the group could get the measure to the full committee within a few days.

As now drafted, the bill would increase the salary of 223 officials, including cabinet members and others, and give \$330 increases to classified employees of the District government and to foreign service employees.

Senator O'Connor said the committee still has to decide if this figure of 223 raises will be adhered to.

It has been approved by the Budget Bureau. The same bill is also before a House Civil Service subcommittee.

**No Discussion on Cost of Living.** The current budget carries an item of \$70,000,000 to increase the Classification Act scales for employees generally. Classification revision legislation has been under study by the Senate Civil Service Committee for some time, Chairman Johnston said.

The committeemen who saw Mr. Truman said there was no discussion of a possible cost of living increase for Government workers as a whole. The idea is to let the Classification Act revision take care of this feature.

In addition to Senators Johnston and O'Connor, those who saw the President were Senators Broughton of North Carolina and Long of Louisiana, Democrats, and Flanders of Vermont and Baldwin of Connecticut, Republicans.

**Spellman Leads 100 Volunteers Digging Graves During Strike**

(Picture on Page A-2.)

By the Associated Press

NEW YORK, Mar. 3.—Francis Cardinal Spellman led 100 seminarians and priests peacefully through picket lines today to bury dead at strike-bound Calvary Cemetery.

The unsmiling cardinal, dressed in street clothes, sat in the front seat of one of three buses that took the group past the silent pickets into the cemetery—largest Roman Catholic burial ground here.

The priests and students from St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, N. Y., immediately were divided into 10 groups of 10 men each and set to work to dig graves for about 600 bodies that have been left unburied in the seven-week strike.

The digging proceeded slowly in the snow-covered, frozen ground. It was a raw, windy day.

The Cardinal who has denounced the union leading the walkout, as "Communism-inspired," said on his arrival, "I hoped we'd never have to do it but we'll remain until our task is done."

Cardinal Spellman did not assist with the digging himself. He helped in allotting the work, however, and said he would remain at the cemetery all day.

The pickets made no effort to interfere with the volunteer gravediggers, but several made bitter comments about the Cardinal and his helpers. One tipped his hat as the buses drove past him.

Ed Ruggieri, chairman of the union's negotiating committee, termed the priests and seminarians "strikebreakers."

The strikers want a five day week at the same \$59.40 pay they now get for six days.

## Dr. Strayer Asks Education Board Reorganization

Assails 'Time Wasting' Administrative Setup In Final Report

By Coit Hendley, Jr.

The Board of Education's operating methods were criticized as "time-wasting" and reorganization of it and the whole school administration setup was called for in the final section of the Strayer report which was released by Congress today.

The 2,000-page, 15-volume report also assailed "wasteful practices" which put Washington's cost of operating a school building far above the average for the rest of the country.

The author of the report, Dr. George D. Strayer of Columbia University, was hired by Congress to make the \$100,000 survey of school needs here. The first section on building needs was released several months ago and advocated immediate expenditure of nearly \$38,000,000 for new school construction.

"In general, Washington has good schools," Dr. Strayer said. "But, just as certainly they ought to be far better."

He summed up his report this way: "The outstanding needs of the schools here are the reduction of the size of classes, better pay for teachers and enough classrooms to take care of the children."

**Cost Estimated.** To do this—and carry out his detailed program which touches on every phase of the public school system here—Dr. Strayer estimated that to the current school operating budget (which does not include money for construction) of \$20,037,000 should be added \$3,315,268 for a "minimum job." For an "acceptable job," \$3,933,798 should be tacked on and if school officials want a "defensible educational program," the additional amount would total \$4,618,868, the report said.

In addition, assuming a Federal loan would be obtained for the \$38,000,000 in construction previously recommended, there would be added to the budget \$5,000,000 for yearly payments on the loan.

Dr. Strayer's report called for: New plants for Miner and Wilson Teachers' Colleges—estimated to cost \$10,000,000 for buildings alone—plus a 400 per cent increase in the budgets of the two colleges and an expansion of the faculty and the academic program.

A \$330 immediate cost-of-living raise for teachers; a revamping upward of the present salary scale for teachers; and for administrative officers; operation of the school cafeterias by the Board of Education under a central cafeteria management; ask to leave plant for teachers.

An improvement in the school libraries which are "not up to standards" set by the American Library Association; abolishment of examinations for prospective teachers and creation of a hiring policy based on credentials; establishment of a central storage warehouse for school supplies.

**Would Abolish Committees.** Dr. Strayer's criticism of the Board of Education was centered on the "unfortunate" situation that the board "has taken over administrative responsibilities" from School Supt. Hobart M. Corning.

"There is no clear distinction between policy and staff administration of policy," he declared. "The board does not have time to spend on big, important things because they are worrying over details."

He advocated abolishing the committee system of the school board and have the group operate as a committee of the whole. Only policy matters should be handled.

"If they can't trust the school superintendent to pick proper textbooks, they should fire him and find a man they can trust," he said.

The reorganization of the administrative staff would give Dr. Corning two deputy school superintendents, one for the colored and one for the white schools.

(Continued on Page A-6, Col. 2.)

**Strayer Opposes Barring Athletes Who Fail Exams**

Dr. George D. Strayer today called for school officials to abolish the scholarship requirements for playing on a high school athletic team.

"We don't refuse to let a boy take Latin because he is unable to pass a physical exam," he declared. "Why should we close athletics to a boy who flunks math, for instance?"

The well-known educator from Columbia University said if a boy can engage in athletics and wants to do so, he should be allowed to do it. It is all part of recognizing athletics as an educational field, he added.

He also called for an inter-high athletic council to control inter-high contests which was not under the "domination" of the Senior High School Principals' Association.